

CLAIMS**WE CLAIM:**

1. A method, comprising:

5 associating a delay with a request to transmit information; and
transmitting a signal identifying a time at which information is permitted to be
transmitted based on the delay.

2. A method for controlling a flow of information, comprising:

10 receiving a signal requesting to transmit information;
associating a delay with the request to transmit information;
determining a time at which the information is permitted to be transmitted based on
the delay; and
transmitting a signal identifying the time at which information is permitted to be
15 transmitted.

3. A method, as set forth in claim 2, further comprising:

transmitting a synchronizing signal, and wherein transmitting a signal identifying the
time at which information is permitted to be transmitted further comprises
20 transmitting a signal identifying the time as a function of the synchronizing
signal at which information is permitted to be transmitted.

4. A method, as set forth in claim 3, wherein:

transmitting the signal identifying the time as a function of the synchronizing signal at which information is permitted to be transmitted further comprises transmitting over a shared channel the signal identifying the time as a function of the synchronizing signal at which information is permitted to be transmitted.

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5. A method, as set forth in claim 2, wherein transmitting a signal identifying the time at which information is permitted to be transmitted further comprises transmitting a signal identifying a frame in which information is permitted to be transmitted.

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6. A method, as set forth in claim 2, wherein associating a delay with the request to transmit information further comprises determining a propagation delay.

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7. A method, as set forth in claim 2, wherein associating a delay with the request to transmit information further comprises determining a processing delay.

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8. A method, as set forth in claim 2, further comprising:
receiving the information at a first preselected time;
comparing the first preselected time with the identified time to determine the delay
associated with the request to transmit information.

9. A method for controlling a flow of information from a user to a base station,
comprising:
receiving a signal from the user requesting to transmit information;

associating a delay with the user;
determining a time at which the user is to transmit the information to the base station,
wherein the determined time is a function of the delay; and
transmitting a signal to the user identifying the time at which information is permitted
5 to be transmitted.

10. A method, as set forth in claim 9, further comprising:

transmitting a synchronizing signal to the user, and wherein transmitting a signal
identifying the time at which information is to be transmitted further
10 comprises transmitting a signal identifying the time as a function of the
synchronizing signal at which information is permitted to be transmitted.

11. A method, as set forth in claim 10, wherein:

transmitting the signal identifying the time as a function of the synchronizing signal at
15 which information is to be transmitted further comprises transmitting over a
shared channel the signal identifying the time as a function of the
synchronizing signal at which information is to be transmitted.

12. A method, as set forth in claim 10, further comprising a plurality of users, and
20 wherein:

transmitting the synchronizing signal further comprises transmitting the synchronizing
signal over a shared channel to each of the plurality of users; and
transmitting the signal identifying the time as a function of the synchronizing signal at
which information is to be transmitted further comprises transmitting over the

shared channel to the plurality of users a signal identifying a unique time, as a function of the synchronizing signal, at which information is to be transmitted.

13. A method, as set forth in claim 9, wherein transmitting a signal identifying the time at which information is to be transmitted further comprises transmitting a signal identifying a frame in which information is to be transmitted.

14. A method, as set forth in claim 9, wherein associating a delay with the user further comprises determining a propagation delay associated with signals delivered by the user.

15. A method, as set forth in claim 9, wherein associating a delay with the user further comprises determining a processing delay associated with signals delivered by the user.

16. An apparatus, comprising:

means for receiving a signal requesting to transmit information;

means for associating a delay with the request to transmit information;

means for determining a time at which the information is permitted to be transmitted

based on the delay; and

means for transmitting a signal identifying the time at which information is permitted to be transmitted.

17. A method for controlling the flow of information between a user and a base station, comprising:

transmitting a signal from the user requesting permission from the base station to transmit information;

5 associating a delay with the user;

determining a time at which the user is to transmit the information to the base station, wherein the determined time is a function of the delay; and

transmitting a signal to the user identifying the time at which information is permitted to be transmitted; and

10 transmitting the information from the user to the base station at the identified time.

18. A method, as set forth in claim 17, further comprising:

receiving the information from the user at a first preselected time;

15 comparing the first preselected time with the identified time to determine the delay associated with the user.

19. A method for controlling the flow of information between a user and a base station, comprising:

receiving a synchronizing signal from the base station;

20 transmitting a signal from the user requesting permission from the base station to transmit information;

receiving a signal from the base station identifying a time relative to the synchronizing signal at which information is to be transmitted; and

transmitting the information from the user to the base station at the identified time.

20. A method, as set forth in claim 19, wherein:

receiving a signal from the base station identifying the time at which information is to
be transmitted further comprises receiving a signal from the base station
5 identifying a substantially unique time at which information is to be
transmitted.

21. A method, as set forth in claim 19, wherein:

receiving a signal from the base station identifying the time at which information is to
10 be transmitted further comprises receiving a signal from the base station
identifying a substantially unique frame associated with the synchronizing
signal during which information is to be transmitted.

22. A method, as set forth in claim 19, wherein:

15 receiving a synchronizing signal from the base station further comprises receiving a
synchronizing signal from the base station over a shared channel.